

REMARKS

Applicants have thoroughly considered the Examiner's remarks in the April 2, 2008 Office action and have amended the application to more clearly set forth aspects of the invention. This Amendment B amends claims 1, 14, 25, and 31. No new matter has been added.

Claims 1-7 and 9-36 are thus presented in the application for further examination. Reconsideration of the application as amended and in view of the following remarks is respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1-7, 10-19, 21-29 and 31 -35 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Jobs et al., U.S. Pub App. No. 2005/0149879 (hereinafter Jobs) in view of Santoro et al., U.S. Pat. No. US 6,724,403 (hereinafter Santoro). Additionally, claims 9, 20, 30, and 36 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Jobs in view of Santoro as applied to claims 2, 16, 25, and 31 and further in view of Straub et al., U.S. Pat. No. 6,216,141 (hereinafter Straub).

Jobs teaches a human interface that manages the available space of a computer display. (Abstract). Non-active tasks are minimized by reducing them in size or replacing them with a representative symbol, such as an icon, so that they occupy a minimal amount of space on the monitor's screen. (Abstract). In particular, when the user clicks on a minimized representation of a window, such as a tile in the user bar, the window manager restores it to its normal size. (Paragraph 38, FIG. 8). **In other words, Jobs merely provides a small representation of an application without functionality.**

Santoro discloses a graphical user interface which organizes content from a variety of information sources into a grid of tiles, each of which can refresh its content independently of the others. (Abstract). Critical to the teachings of Santoro, the tile itself is "an image that at any given instant is resident on the file system" and this "image is separate and distinct from the application program or file associated with the tile." (Column 9, lines 57-61). **The tile is itself a document created in a markup language such as HTML or XML and is suitable for display in a web-browser.** (FIG. 6; column 10, lines 23-26). Tile-specific attributes are introduced to control the way in which a web-browser displays the tile. (Column 10, lines 29-31). For example, the tile as shown in FIG. 6 of Santoro has a clickable map, i.e., separate areas

of the tile produce separate results when clicked. The tile also has a toolbar that appears if the mouse is right-clicked when the cursor is over the tile. (FIG. 6; column 10, lines 30-34).

With respect to interactive features, Santoro teaches tiles of the present invention may be assigned at least seven functions, including but not limited to: an initialization function 508 that is responsible for establishing a connection with the target address 504; a refresh function 510 that handles **updates to the tile image** stored at the tile address 502; a screen-size function 512 that stores the **dimensions of the display area filled by the tile** upon receipt of a request; **an alarm function 514 that permits the tile to display an alarm or warning** when the application program associated with the tile encounters a designated event; an on mouseover function 518 and an on mouseout function 520 that control the **behavior of the tile** when a selection tool such as a mouse-controlled cursor is placed respectively on and off the tile; and a **toolbar function 522**, which may permit an array of special buttons to appear on or adjacent to the tile for the purposes of adjusting properties of the tile. (Column 10, lines 1-22). **In other words, Santoro teaches interactive functions related to the tile, not the application; and that the application is separate and distinct from the tile.**

Straub teaches a method for displaying a **rich multimedia document** in the same window as the desktop window. (Abstract). FIG. 5 illustrates desktop window with a **desktop viewer for displaying a document** including a channel bar and FIG. 6 illustrates a browser for displaying additional information about the **document** displayed in the desktop viewer. (Column 4, lines 19-24). The channel bar lists the currently selected channels denoted by channel buttons where each channel button represents a different channel corresponding to a topic of information or a different content provider. (Column 8, lines 44-57). Selecting the options button of the channel bar results in the **opening of an options window** having a menu of **options the user can select**. (Column 9, lines 11-13). For example, the user can select an **option for removing the channel bar and viewer** from the desktop, the user can select the **duration that each document or channel is displayed**; the user can also **access a channel guide** that allows the user to select **channels and documents** displayed in the viewer. (Column 9, lines 13-23). The options menu also provides navigation controls option which includes fast-forward, play, pause and reverse options to **control the viewer**. (Column 9, lines 24-32). **In other words, Straub teaches interactive functions related to the viewer, not an application.**

In contrast, claim 1 recites

minimizing an application upon receiving a minimize command; and revealing a **tile in a sidebar to present the minimized application** in response to the minimize command, the sidebar configured to display a plurality of tiles corresponding to a plurality of applications, wherein revealing the tile includes **displaying one or more interactive application features**, said interactive application features **providing selected functionality of the application to the user without removing the application from the sidebar**.

The rich minimized application has an interface that is **capable of providing important interactive features of the application even when the application is minimized.** (Page 21, paragraph 72). Many applications have some set of features that are useful to a user even when the application window is minimized. (Page 22, paragraph 72). The features selected by the module may be or include a sub-set of the original feature set, the entire original feature set, or additional features not included in the original feature set. (Page 22, paragraph 72).

For example, **an application such as a media player could offer controls such as play/pause and information such as song name while the application is minimized in the sidebar.** (Page 23, paragraph 76). When the user minimizes the application by clicking on the minimize button or other method, the main application window vanishes and a tile appears in the sidebar. (Page 23, paragraph 76). Advantageously, **the tile provides some information and controls that were in the main window so that the user still has access to them even though the window is minimized.** (Page 23, paragraph 76). Other examples include a clock, a virus checker, or a list of buddies online **applications that may provide such functionality in a minimized state.** (Page 23, paragraph 77). In yet another example, illustrated in FIG. 9C, a fly-out window provides song options, a directory for further albums and artists, and other play options **despite the fact that the application is minimized.** (Page 28, paragraph 89).

However, none of the above references teach or make obvious the **"tile includes displaying one or more interactive application features" and the "one or more interactive application features providing selected functionality of the application to the user without removing the application from the sidebar"** as recited in claim 1. As explained above, Jobs merely discloses minimizing an application with no interactive features, Santoro merely teaches interactive functions related to the tile that is separate and distinct from the application, and Straub merely teaches an options menu for providing navigation controls option to control the

viewer. Writing for the Supreme Court, Justice Anthony Kennedy observed that a patent claim is invalid for obviousness when the invention combines familiar elements according to known methods to produce no more than predictable results. (*KSR International Co. v. Teleflex, Inc.* U.S., 550 USPQ2d 1385 (2007)). However, in this rejection, neither the **element of the tile includes displaying one or more interactive application features** nor the **result of the interactive application features providing selected functionality of the application to the user without removing the application from the sidebar** is found in the combined art. Claims 14, 25, and 31, as amended, include similar subject matter as claim 1. Accordingly, claims 1, 14, 25, and 31 are allowable over the cited art. Claims 2-7, 9-13, 15-24, 26-30, and 32-36 depend from claims 1, 14, 25, and 31, respectively, and are allowable for at the least the same reasons as claims 1, 14, 25, and 31.

Conclusion

Applicants submit that the claims are allowable for at least the reasons set forth herein. Applicants thus respectfully submit that the claims as presented are in condition for allowance and respectfully request favorable reconsideration of this application.

Although the prior art made of record and not relied upon may be considered pertinent to the disclosure, none of these references anticipates or makes obvious the recited aspects of the invention. The fact that Applicants may not have specifically traversed any particular assertion by the Office should not be construed as indicating Applicants' agreement therewith.

Applicants wish to expedite prosecution of this application. If the Examiner deems the application to not be in condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited and encouraged to telephone the undersigned to discuss making an Examiner's amendment to place the application in condition for allowance.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency or overpayment of any required fee during the entire pendency of this application to Deposit Account No. 19-1345.

Respectfully submitted,

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